

Robyn Preston MP Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

LOCAL PROJECTS SCORE FUNDING THROUGH NSW FOOTBALL LEGACY FUND

The NSW Liberal and Nationals Government has kicked off the year in winning style by awarding more than \$3.1 million for 100 projects that will benefit football at all levels.

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP said 3 local projects have received \$75K in total for new facilities, inspiring the next generation of footballers in the local community.

These upgrades include:

- Icely Park \$25K for the upgrade to the change rooms including partitions in the shower area, seating installation and storage.
- Woodlands Ovals \$25K for the upgrade to the change rooms including partitions in the shower area, seating installation and storage.
- Bensons 1 \$25K for the proposed upgrades to the change rooms targeting female athletes' privacy and storage.

"From girls and boys lacing up their boots for the first time to participants in our elite development programs, local players and their sports clubs will benefit from projects funded through the NSW Football Legacy Program," Ms Preston said.

"Sport is part of the fabric of our community and I look forward to seeing the positive impact this program has on local football, at all levels."

Mr David Bertenshaw, President of the Hawkesbury Sports Council welcomed the announcement of this funding.

"Making the changerooms more accessible and comfortable for women is a great way to boost female participation in sport" Mr Bertenshaw said.

Hawkesbury City Council Mayor, Ms Sarah McMahon said that these changeroom upgrades are a great investment in the Hawkesbury community.

"We want to encourage as many young boys and girls to participate in sport in Hawkesbury and keeping the facilities up to date is one of the ways we can do that," Ms McMahon said.

Minister for Sport Alister Henskens said these projects and programs will ensure the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 leaves a lasting legacy for football across the State.

"Having the World Cup on home soil is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that will inspire young girls and boys to lace up the boots and emulate their football heroes," Mr Henskens said.

"With six months to go before the tournament kicks off, there is already an enormous buzz around football and this program will help local clubs capitalise on excitement by running programs that will boost participation in the sport.

"It will also deliver funding to improve infrastructure, creating more modern and accessible facilities for communities across NSW."

The FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 will feature 32 teams competing in 64 matches across Australia and New Zealand during July and August with seven games at Allianz Stadium and four at Accor Stadium, including a Semi Final and the Final.

For further information on fixtures and ticketing, visit the <u>FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™</u> website.

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